REMARKS

With the cancellation of claim 10, claims 11 to 14, 16, and 17 are now pending in the above-referenced application.

Applicants have canceled rejected claim 10 and have addressed the objection to claim 12 by way of amendment. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection and objection is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious, and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON LLP

Dated: 4/4/00

B7: D= (B.No.41,172)

Ву: 30-

Gerard A. Messina Reg. No. 35,952

One Broadway New York, New York 10004 Telephone: (212) 425-7200